G. R. S. IX-5]

*Previous references*

File No. 76-19

1919.

( Stamp )

Serial Nos. 1, 1A, 1B, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

*Later references.*

P 30

E

# GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

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*Serial Nos.* Eight

Part B for June 1920.

---

SUBJECT.

plague in the compound of the Victoria Hospital, Bangalore.

---

46). From The Senior Surgeon
No C 1726-4 S 7-5-20

To letter No 1103 S 14-4-20 from the Surgical officer in charge of the Victoria Hospital, B'lore, explaining the several precautionary measures taken by the Resident Medical officer during the occurrence of a plague case in the Victoria Hospital compound.

W 1285-6 P D-5,000-Al-18

16/7/20

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

( Sany )

NOTES.

File No. 76-19

FILE HEADING.

Plaque in the Compound of the Victoria Hospital, Bangalore

From

| No. | Dated | Received |
|---|---|---|

| Diary No. | Enclos. | Spare Copies. | Serial No. |
|---|---|---|---|

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

B. M. 14]

RETURN A.

13453

T-O No 131

Date 19.1.20

Daily Plague Return.

WD 0126—GPB—4000,—14-8-19

| Cases reported | Deaths during the day | Name | Age | Sex | Caste | House No. and street name | Total cases since beginning | Total deaths | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | | Mukamba | 32 | F | H. | Sub Assistant Surgeon Queens Victoria Hospital | | | |
| 1 | | Takundwa 28m was Receipts from Dunkers to Edmonstone | | | | | | | |
| 2 | | All infected & their neighbours houses will be disinfected | | | | | | | |

Returned 20/1/20

Confirm Please Return to S.S.O. to submit to Government at once

Agreement as to 6 cases

Cases should be cases of plague & not other diseases

The S.A. should have taken precautions with a view to such a case occurring

Fernandes

Health Officer

Draft sub. I hear the deceased was the wife of the S.A.

2nd Member). 21/1/20

21/1/20

20-1-20

(B. M. 15]

# BANGALORE CITY.

## Bulletin Form.

Plague and Mortuary Return of the City of Bangalore for the 24 hours ending Midnight.....19 1 .....191 20.

| Municipal Divisions | Plague attacks | | Plague deaths | | Total Mortality | Classes | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Males | Females | Males | Females | | | |
| I. Palace Division and Mallesvaram Division ... | | | | | — | East Indians | |
| II. Bale Pete Division ... | | | | | — | Europeans | |
| III. Manavarte Pete Division ... | | | | | 4 | Native Christians | 1 |
| IV. Alsur Pete Division ... | | | | | — | Other C asses | |
| V. Nagarth Pete Division ... | | | | | — | Mahomedans | 1 |
| VI. Lal-Bagh Division ... | | | | | 1 | Hindus | 10 |
| VII. Fort Division and Basavangudi Extension ... | | | | | 6 | | |
| Plague Hospital ... | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | | |
| Total ... | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 12 | Total | 12 |

G.R.S. III—31

13805

4

## Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

DEWAN'S OFFICE.
Recd. on JAN 28 1920
Reg. No. 5115

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

FEB 1920

23 JAN 1920

5

13457
13805

G.R.S. III—3]

## Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

---

8/1B

From the Senior Surgeon
No. C. 1827 Dated 26th Jan 1920

Forwards a report re the occurrence of plague in the official quarters of the Victoria Hospital, and asks that he may come to know the case only by the daily plague report and that the remedies in the C.M.O. Hospital and that severe notice should be taken of the Council of the Medical officer, Victoria Hospital for not having reported the matter to him for four days after the occurrence

Submitted for orders

BBS
26/1

DCS
26/1/20.

2nd Member)

3665
26-1-20

(6) The superintendent of the Medical Victoria Hospital may be called upon to show cause why

(1) When the occurrence the case came to notice

(2) What action he took thereon

(3) If he reported the matter

*N.B.*—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

1305
1505
1053

6

G.R.S. III—3]

## Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

(3) From the Senior Surgeon No C/1187-8 D 12-2-20. Submits the explanation of the Sub Asst Surgeon and also the report of the M.H.O. of the result of investigation regarding the source of infection in the residential quarters of the Victoria Hospital.

(4) From the Senior Surgeon No C/1187-1 D 10/12 th Feb 1920 Submits the replies of the Medical Officer Victoria Hospital to the points on which information was required in connection with the Plague Case in the Residential Quarters of the Victoria Hospital

(5) Submitted with reference to para 6 of 6/2/20 Bpr

6/2/20

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

(3) The Senior Surgeon wrote in his letter of 24th January as follows:—

"The Medical Officer, Victoria Hospital, ought to have submitted first information of the case to this office at once, or at least on the 19th. But I was not able to obtain a report even on the 20th although repeatedly called for. But a report dated 20th was received on the 21st evening."

(4) The explanation offered by the Medical Officer merely shows that he did not realise that an immediate report in the matter was due from him to the higher authorities. Even granting that the

G.R.S. III—3] 1553

## Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

knew of the occurrence only on the 19th morning, there is no reason why he shd. have signed his report on the 20th evening ~~and~~ after several reminders from the Senior Surgeon and got it despatched so as to reach the latter on the 21st evening.

2nd Member)

[initials] 17/2/20.

DEWAN'S OFFICE.
Recd. on FEB 21 1920
Reg. No. 5780

4231 (a)
17-2-20

15) An [illegible] of Dr [illegible]'s position & standing in the medical profession should have known that the safety of the patients of the hospital was jeopardised by the appearance of plague in the premises of the hospital [illegible] and the [illegible] to [illegible] that he failed to realise the responsibility of his place and the gravity of the situation. He should have sent first information ~~[illegible]~~ of the occurrence to the Senior Surgeon without loss of any time and should have personally supervised the operations necessary to stamp out the disease.

[initials] 18/2/20

*N.B.*—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form

Dewan

16. Yes. The decision may be communicated. [illegible] [illegible]

[initials] 20/2/20

[initials] 5-3-20 [initials] 5/3/20.

G.R.S. III—3]

15853 2111/21 8

## Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

Draft for typ
8/3 19 For perusal & approval
MM 8/3/20
Chief Sec)
18 Issue
ccs
8/3
MM
ccs

For perusal
3rd Member) ccs 10/3/20.
4837 10.3.20. 19 Appd Copy-Reply issued
Init
12/3
Issue
ccs
825) Issued 2/2888 12/3/20 15/3/20.

To Mr Luker
States that the observations may be Communicated to the Officer.

From the Senior Surgeon
No C 1726-497.5.20.

Forwards letter No 1103 & 14.4.20 from the Surgical officer in charge of the Victoria Hospital, Bengalore explaining the several precautionary measures taken by the Resident Surgical officer, during the occurrence of a plague case in the Victoria Hospital compound. 20 Statistical forms

26 MAR 1920

*N.B.*—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

21121

9

G. R. S. III-2]

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Home ~~File No.~~ 76 of 1919

Serial No.

2) Is there any Standing Order requiring the submission of First Information Reports in such cases without loss of time?

2 2 Are there any Rules defining the respective duties and responsibilities of the Medical Officer & the Resident Medical Officer of institutions such as the Victoria and the Krishnarajendra Hospitals? Does the Madras or the Bombay Medical Code contain any such Rules?

DCS
15/5/20.

Home Dept. No. G 2137-402 Q.25 dated 19 Jun 01/-17-92. prescribing rules for combating epidemics in general as well as urban areas is published.

With reference to para 22 of the note it is submitted that information is not available on the points referred to. Draft calling for information from the Secretariat is submitted

685
995

20.5.20

Draft may be approved.

6629
24.5.20

3rd Member)

DCS
21/5/20.

Mr Narasimhaswamy does not want a modification of the order of the Minister. He has simply misquoted certain facts which he puts forward. I do not think that it is necessary to send a reply. This communication may be recorded.

Rh?
24/6

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

G. R. S. III-2]

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Inf File No. 76 of 1919 2124 10

| Serial No. | |
|---|---|
| | Submitted with a draft reply for the inclusion |
| | 9/6/20 |
| | To The Senior Surgeon |
| | Issue 10/6/20 |
| | No G 2748 d 12.6.20. |
| | Returns the inoculation register |

B 16

Pub. Office Branch. 23 JUN 1920

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

Gen 76-79-4A

To

The Senior Surgeon,

Bangalore.

Dear Sir,

In the Daily Plague Return for the 19th Instant received from the Health Officer, Bangalore City, a Case of ~~death from~~ plague is reported to have occurred in the quarters of a Sub Assistant Surgeon in the Victoria Hospital. I am ~~directed~~ desired to request you to be so good as to let me ~~know~~ have ~~what the inspection was~~ information as to the place introduced into ~~from which the deceased came~~ or the person who was the ~~cause of infection came~~. ~~and if the~~ or the ~~patient was in any~~ person Came from an infected place, the Sub Assistant Surgeon should have taken necessary precautions not to admit such a person into his official Quarters within the Hospital Compound. His explanation may kindly be obtained and forwarded with your reply.

G 16843
dy 22/1/20

Yours Sincerely,

DCS
21/1/20.

Chief Secy. to Govt.

No. G. C.1187-4 Office of the Senior Surgeon, Mysore Govt., 12
Encls.

Dated. Bangalore, 24th January 1920

From

DIARY No. 13805

Rajakarya Pravina

Rao Bahadur T. V. Arumugum Mudaliar, Esq., M. B., C. M.,

Senior Surgeon with the Government of

H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

19 -19
SECTION San
FILE No. 76-19.
SERIAL No. 14-103

To

The Chief Secretary to the Government of

H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore,

Bangalore.

Sir,

With reference to your D.O. letter No.G.16843-San., da dated 22nd January 1920, I have the honor to state that the occurrence of a plague case in the official quarters of the Victoria Hospital was noticed by me in the daily Plague Report of the Bangalore City, dated 19th January 1920, received in my office on the 20th and orders were at once given to the Medical Officer, Victoria Hospital, to have all the inmates of the residential quarters and also the staff of the Hospital inoculated against plague and the quarters disinfected and to report that these measures have been adopted.

In this connection I have to bring to notice that the existence of the plague case became known and the patient and all the inmates of the house were sent to the Epidemic Diseases Hospital and contact camp on the 18th January 1920 and the patient is reported to have died within a few hours of her admission in the Epidemic Diseases Hospital. The Medical Officer, Victoria Hospital, ought to have submitted first information of the case to this office at once, or at least on the 19th. But I was not able to obtain a report even on the 20th although repeatedly called for. But a report dated 20th was received on the 21st evening. The explanation of the Sub Assistant Surgeon in having allowed a patient in his to remain in his house without giving information

From

The Senior Surgeon,

19248 Mysore Govt., Bangalore.

To Chief
The Secretary
to the Govt. of Mysore,
Deptt.,
Bangalore.

Dated 24-1-1920.

No. G.C. 1187-4.

Encls.

GEN. & REV. DEP. Ch Sec'y
Ca 26 JAN 1920

Subject.

Furnishing a report in connection with the occurrence of a plague case in the Officers' Quarters of the Victoria Hospital.

Sair 26-1-20
Please submit to 2nd Member and Dewan for perusal.
26/1

PROTECTION BRANCH. JAN 1920

h 4-PS

10

to the Medical Officer has been called for and his case will be suitably dealt with by this office. But the failure of the Medical Officer to submit a report to this office immediately after the ~~patient~~ case became known and was removed, and his having sent the report on such an important occurrence to my office four days late deserves severe notice. From enquiries made by me personally it is gathered that the Sub Assistant Surgeon had received a few bags of paddy from Seringapatam and that the infection might have been communicated through the bags. A further report will be submitted on the results of the investigation which the Medical Officerhas been asked to make.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

D. Cunningham

Senior Surgeon.

14

G. R. S. V1—G/32]

SUBJECT.....

.....

.....

Diary No. of letter replied to... .....

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT
( )
, the 191

Date of issue 31/1

Signed by W Dss

Sam

Section ~~Health~~

File No. 76-19

Serial No. 2

No. R.17598

To

The Senior Surgeon

Sir,

With ref. to your letter no. C.1187-4 of 26th Jan. 920. furnishing a report in connection with the occurrence of a plague case in the ~~official~~ Staff quarters of the Victoria hospital, I am directed to request you to be so good as to ~~submit~~ at an early date the Call for and submit

over.

CR/48

the explanation of the
Medical officer Victoria Hospital, on
the following points:-

1) When the occurrence
of the case came to his
notice.

2) What action he took
thereon

3) Why he took four
days in reporting the
matter to the Senior Surgeon.

I have etc

Dr
30/1/20
Dorchill Esq

Dr 68
29/1

29/1/20

*List of enclosures.*

*Copied by*

*Examined by*

W D S6—G P B—60,000—15-11-16

No. C. 1187-8/Bl. one.

Office of the Senior Surgeon, Mysore Govt.

Dated Bangalore, 12th February 1920

DIARY No. 15045

13 FEB 1920

21389

From

Rajakarya Pravina Rao Bahadur
T. V. Arumugum Mudaliar Esq., M.B., C.M.,
Senior Surgeon with the Government of
H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

To

The Chief Secretary to the Government of
H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

Med 13-2-20 4-30

CHIEF SECRETARIAT. 14 FEB 1920 PROTECTION BRANCH.

Sir,

With reference to your D. O. letter No. 16843, dated 22nd January 1920, I have the honor to forward herewith a copy of the Sub Assistant Surgeon's explanation from which it will be seen that he received bags of paddy from Seringapatam on the 16th January, evening, and that his wife took ill that same night. She is reported to have had a hysterical fit and to have been treated for hysteria on the 16th night and on the 17th as she was subject to such fits frequently. It was on the 17th night that the Sub Assistant Surgeon came to know that the patient had pain in the left groin and on the following morning the matter was reported to the Resident Medical Officer who pronounced the case as one of plague and the removal of the patient to the Epidemic Diseases Hospital and of the other inmates to the contact camp was effected on the 18th evening.

The Medical Officer reports that from the investigation held, "it is not possible to trace the infection to any particular individual or locality" and that as plague is endemic in Bangalore, the infection might most probably have been carried by rats from the neighbouring mandies, and I am disposed to agree with him, as dead rats were found in the Resident Medical Officer's quarters also subsequently.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

T. V. Arumugum

Senior Surgeon

From

The Senior Surgeon,

Mysore Govt., Bangalore.

To

The Chief Secy. to Govt.

Bangalore.

Dated 12th February 1920

Despatched -do-

No.

Enc. one.

---

Submits a report of the result of the investigation held by the Resident Medical Officer, Victoria Hospital, on the source of infection, in the matter of a case of plague in the quarters of the Victoria Hospital.

17

Explanation of the Sub Assistant Surgeon, Mr.Padmababha Mudr.

---

"I beg to explain that myself and my people did not find any dead rats in the quarters. On the 11th instant (January) I left the station on three days' leave to Palhalli near Mysore to bring m my paddy and returned on the 14th morning. My paddy was received by rail on the 16th evening. On the 14th instant I brought some vegetables from Seringapatam. On the 16th night my wife complained of headache and a few hours after had an attack of hysterical fit which she was subject to off and on. On the 17th morning her temperature was 102 and was treated for hysteria. The same evening she complained of pain over the left gluteal region and groin. On examination I foundout that an inguinal gland was enlarged and her temperature was 100 throughout on the following day. On the 18th evening we removed the patie nt to the E. D. Hospital where she expired at about 5 A.M. on the 19th. I was told that during disinfection the coolies found a dead rat in the store room."

---

Resident Medical Officer's report of result of investigation regarding source of infection.

"As desired by the Medical Officer on the 25th January, I investigated into the probable cause of infection by eliciting all possible information from the Sub Assistant Surgeon and I give below the result of my investigation:-

"The facts elicited from the Sub Assistant Surgeon go to show that (i) plague is prevalent in localities between Mandya and Mysore, (ii) he had proceeded to Palhalli and Seringapatam a couple of days before the infection in his house; (iii) that he sent a consignment of paddy by rail from Paschimavahini; (iv) he brought vegetables from Seringapatam and (v) his wife fell ill the very night on which the consignment of paddy was received by rail here."

"In the absence of any further definite data as to the exact source of infection, the only possibe theory appears to be that it might have been due to one or other of the following causes:-

(i) An infected rat might have got into the of the bags of paddy either at Palhalli or in the Railway Goods-shed at Paschimavahini where the paddy was booked or while in the waggon in the

course of transmission along with other consignments, or even in the City Goods-shed, Bangalore, and from there transmitted to the Sub Assistant Surgeon's quarters; or

"(ii) The Sub Assistant Surgeon or one of the inmates of his quarters might have gone to and returned from, some infected locality in Bangalore, without knowing it as such, thereby bringing infection with them; or some friend or relative of the family from an infected quarter of the city might, in the course of an innocent visit to them in their quarters have inconsciously introduced infection, without either party suspecting the slightest danger from the visit at the time; or

"(iii) it might have been due to infected rats from one or other of the many grain stores in the new Taragupeta located very close to the hospital compound having found their way to the quarters of the Sub Assistant Surgeon."

(Sd) D. S. Puttanna,

Resident Medical Officer.

---

"C o p y"

Office of the Senior Surgeon, Mysore Govt.,

No. C. 1187-9.
Encls.

Dated, Bangalore, 10th February 1920.

12/4/19

DIARY No. 15053.

Ch Sec to Govt
13 FEB 1920

21341

From

Rajakarya Pravina

Rao Bahadur T. V. Arumugum Mudaliar, Esq., M. B., C. M.,

Senior Surgeon with the Government of

H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

To

Med 13/2/20

The Chief Secretary to the Government of

H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore,

Bangalore.

Sir

With reference to your letter No.G.17598-Medl, dated 31st January 1920, I have the honor to note below the explanation of the Medical Officer on the several points, in their order:-

| | |
|---|---|
| (1) When the occurrence of the case came to his notice. | "The occurrence was brought to my notice on the 19th morning" |
| (2) What action he took thereon. | "All that was needed, viz, transferring the patient to the E.D.Hospital, the disinfection of the quarters, was done by the Resident Medical Officer on the evening of the 18th."<br>"On receipt of your letter the Resident Medical Officer was asked to inoculate against plague all the inmates of all the Staff Quarters in this hospital and it was accordingly carried out." |

It will be seen that part of the measures were adpoted by the Resident Medical Officer on the 18th, before the case was brought to the Medical Officer's notice and part, after the receipt of this office order dated 20th, in the matter.

| | |
|---|---|
| (3) Why he took four days to report the matter to the Senior Surgeon. | "My report to you was signed by me on the 20th; as it was late in the evening, the letter was delivered the next day, the 21st |

---

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Senior Surgeon.

From

The Senior Surgeon,

Mysore Govt., Bangalore.

To

The Chief Secretary
to the Govt. of Mysore,
Deptt.,
Bangalore.

Date 191

No. G

Encls.

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Subject.

Submits replies of the Medical Officer, Victoria Hospital, to the points on which information was required by Government, in connection with the plague case that had occurred in the residential quarters of the Victoria Hospital.

G. R. S. VI—G/32]

20

SUBJECT.....

.....

.....

*Diary No. of letter replied to*.....

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT,
( )
*the* 191 .

*Date of issue*..... 15/3

*Signed by*..... W DG

Section Sec
File No. 76-19
Serial No. 5

No. G 21288
Med

To The Senior Surgeon on Negon,

Sir

with reference to
Correspondence ending with Your
letter no C 118) 9 & 1912 of Feb 20
regarding the occurrence of a
Case of Plague in the Victoria
Hospital Compound I am to
direct to state ~~request for~~ to
~~Kindly Communicate to Dr~~
~~Sylvafonan the Honorary~~
~~Visitors~~ Visit of Government. ~~Hospitals~~
the action taken by him when a case of Plague
occurred in the premises of the Victoria
over
hospital.

W 15/3

that an officer of Dr my Lafanans
position & standing in the
medical profession should have
known how the safety of the
patients of the hospital was
jeopardised by the appearance of
flame in the premises of the
hospital & to speak & sort
regret to observe that he failed
to realise the responsibility of
his office & the gravity of the
situation. He shd have sent first
information of the occurrence to
the Senior Surgeon without loss of
time & shd have personally
superintended the operations necessary
to stamp out the disease.

Yours &c

MC
8/5/16
Dor Chief Sy.

*List of enclosure*

I am asked that
these observations may be communicated to Dr Mylavaganam

*Copied by*

*Examined by*

Office of the Senior Surgeon, Mysore Govt.,

No. C.1726-4
Encls. 4

Dated, Bangalore, 7th May 1920

2112192

From

Rajakarya Pravina
Rao Bahadur T. V. Arumugum Mudaliar, Esq., M. B., C. M.,
Senior Surgeon with the Government of
H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

To

The Chief Secretary to the Government of
H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore,
Bangalore.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward herewith letter No.1103 dated 14th April 1920 from Mr. H. B. Mylvaganam, addressed to you with reference to the order of Government conveyed in your letter No.G.21288-Med., dated 15th March 1920, and communicated to him by me.

Although, in the opinion of Government, Mr.Mylvaganam should have personally supervised the operations necessary to ~~stamp out~~ prevent the spread of plague in the hospital - premises, Mr.Mylvaganam thinks that the appointment of a ~~Resident~~ Resident Medical Officer relieves him of his own responsibility as Medical Officer in charge. It must, of course, be admitted that whatever the Resident Medical Officer does "with the approval of the Medical Officer" amounts to the latter doing it. In the present case, the Medical Officer himself admits that he was ignorant of the event till the following day, so that the Resident Medical Officer could not have had the Medical Officer's approval at the time the former carried out, "on his own initiative" on the 18th January, the several precautionary measures. The removal of the patient from the premises to the Epidemic Diseases Hospital, the evacuation of the infected house and the disinfection of the same, are events which would have been ~~not~~

From

The Senior Surgeon,

3.271 Mysore Govt., Bangalore.

To

The Chief Secretary
to the Govt. of Mysore,
Deptt.,
Bangalore.

Date 7-5-, 1920.

No. & C. 1726-6. Ch Sec's Off

Encls. 4. 8 MAY 1920

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Subject.

Forwarding the letter from Mr. H. B. Rayhuagamma with reference to the order of Government conveyed in ~~[illegible]~~ letter No. G. 21288-Med. dated 15th March 1920.

med 1725/20

20

noticed by every member on the staff of the Hospital; but the Medical Officer, by his own admission, had no knowledge thereof and "no chance to attend personally to the measures adopted by the Resident Medical Officer."

If the Medical Officer had been informed of the next day of all the measures (including the starting of inoculation) adopted by the Resident Medical Officer on the very day of the occurrence, it is hard to think how he could have overlooked the report of the latter dated 5th February 1920, in submitting his report No.860, dated 9th February 1920, to this office and stated that the inoculation had been ordered after the receipt of this office letter.

I have obtained the inoculation diary of the Resident Medical Officer which is submitted herewith, together with his explanatory memo dated 23rd April 1920. My official instructions regarding the inoculation of the inmates of the quarters were issued on the 20th January 1920 and I visited the Hospital the next morning and repeated the instructions in person. If, as is now reported, 67 cases had already been inoculated before the receipt of instructions from this office the fact should naturally have been reported to me when I repeated on the 21st January in person the instructions officially issued the previous day. No such report was made.

The Resident Medical Officer is reported to have started 'inoculationcampaign" on the 18th night by inoculating three children of his own household. The most natural thing for him under the circumstances would have been to start the operationwith the inmates of the adjacent quarters. Again, one whole day, the 19th was wasted on the score that the needle broke on the previous night, when it could not have been difficult for him to obtain another needle and continue the operation, if it had really been started on the 18th. I am not therefore prepared to accept the alleged inoculation of three children of the Resident Medical Officer's household as amounting to the starting of "the inoculation campaign", nor that the date 21-1-20 put on page 2 was "by an oversight"

DM

24

That the Medical Officer was ignorant of the affair till the 19th evening would go to show an absence of interest on his part to keep himself informed of at least the important happenings in the institution in his charge, which, in this case did not at all require his entering into the privacy of any family. It does not lend support to his statement that he fully realised the situation and the responsibility of his office.

My reportNo.C.1187-4, dated 24th January 1920 and and the next report No.1187-9, dated 10th February 1920, submitting the explanation of the Medical Officer on the three points ~~on which~~ raised in your office letter No.G.17598-Med. dated 31st January 1920, were based on the information furnished by the Medical Officer himself and the present letter of the Medical Officer and the explanatory memo of the Resident Medical Officer do not alter ~~any material fact~~ the facts materially for any reconsideration of the order conveyed in your letter dated 15th March 1920.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

ur most obedient servant,

Senior Surgeon.

MEMO.

1. As desired in Memo No.C.1726 dated the 19th/21st April 1920, from the Senior Surgeon to the address of the Medical Officer, the Inoculation Dairy in connection with the outbreak of a case of plague in the official quarters of the Victoria Hospital in January last is submitted herewith with a few words of explanation regarding some of the entries made therein.

2. Three names find entry in page 1 against the date 18th January 1920 and these relate to children in my household who were inoculated on the 18th night. I could not do more that night as the needle of the inoculation syringe broke in the course of the operation.

3. No inoculations were done on the 19th as there was no needle but the day was spent mainly in going round all the residential quarters, taking the census and advising the inmates to get themselves inoculated.

4. The first seven names on top of page 2 of the Dairy pertain to children belonging to Sub-Assistant Surgeon Gopala-Krishna Rao's house who offered themselves for inoculation on the 20th morning. When I actually began to work the syringe, the piston was found to be out of order, and as they were in a hurry to go to school, they went away (without getting themselves inoculated that very day) but promising to turn up the next day. Within a short time afterwards, I succeded in getting the syringe into working order and inoculated 64 persons that day. Probably out of sheer oversight the date 20th was not marked at the top of these 64 names by the clerk who entered them in the Dairy.

5. I inoculated the seven children referred to above on the morning of the 21st at their residence and date 21st was marked against each of these names which remained unscored. It was also entered at the top of page 5 over the names of the other people inoculated on that day.

OFFICE OF THE ... 26. APR 1920 MYSORE GOVT. BANGALORE.



6. It was while I was inoculating the children belonging to Gopalakrishna Rao's household on the 21st morning that the Senior Surgeon gave instructions to me in person that the inmates of the quarters should be inoculated (in addition to issuing an offiaial memo). These 7 inoculations as well as the cases finding entry under the 21st and later were done after the issue of personal instructions and the receipt of a written order from the Senior Surgeon. All the rest amounting to 67 out of a total of 275 cases had been inoculated before the receipt of instructions from him.

B.S. Puttanna,

23rd April 1920
Bangalore.

Resident Medical Officer,
Victoria Hospital, Bangalore.

To

The Medical Officer,
Victoria Hospital, BANGALORE.

...IA HOSPITAL No:- 1143 Eye Station ... BANGALORE

C. 1726-3 / 29.4.20

- forwarded to the Senior Surgeon, Mysore Government, Bangalore, with reference to his No: C.1726-3 dated 19/31.4.1920.

V. B. Mysorekar
Medical Officer in charge
Victoria Hospital
Bangalore.

No. 1103

Office of the Victoria Hospital,

Bangalore, Dated 14th April 1920.

C. 1726 27
17-4-20

From

The Medical Officer In Charge,

Victoria Hospital,

Bangalore.

To

The Chief Secretary,

to the Government of Mysore, Bangalore,

Through,

The Senior Surgeon, Mysore Government, Bangalore.

Sir,

Referring to letter No. G. 21288-Med, dated the 15th March 1920, from you to the Senior Surgeon, I feel very much grieved that the Government should have passed, what is practically a censure on me, without giving me a chance for explaining my position in self defence, as required by the Government rules. I feel confident that if the Government had seen the whole correspondence passed between the Senior Surgeon and me on the subject, they would not have passed this order against me.

I was merely asked three questions by the Senior Surgeon in his letter no. c. 1187-6, the purpose of which I was not aware of at the time and my reply to these three queries was naturall short and concise.

From the letter quoted above, I note that the Government have blamed me for three acts of omission in their opinion Viz, (1) for failing to realize the responsibility of my office and the gravity of the situation, (2) for failing to personally supervise the operations necessary to stamp out the disease, (3) for failing to send first information of the occurence of plague to the Senior Surgeon without loss of time.

In reply to these three alleged acts of omission on my

my part, I beg to submit for the information of the Government, that the occurence of the case of plague in the staff quarters of the Victoria Hospital was first brought to the notice of the Resident Medical Officer Mr. Puttanna, at abou 11 A.M, on the 18th January 1920, by the Sub Assistant Surgeon, Mr. Padmanabha Mudaliar, whose wife was the victim.

Mr. Puttanna examined the patient, and finding that it was a case of plague, immediately took all the necessary steps known to science to prevent its spread, on his own initiative. He sent the patient to the E.D. Hospital without any loss of time, the contacts were segregated in the contact camp, the house in which the Sub Assistant Surgeon and the patient were living was vacated, and other belongings removed the health officer was informed of it and the infected quarters with seven adjacent buildings were disinfected by the Sanitary Depratmnet the same day, and the Resident Medical Officer started inoculation the same day. All these essential operations were carried out under the personal supervision of the Resident Medical Officer who has been appointed by the Government to fill this responsible post. He is an experienced and fully qualified officer and in the capacity of the District Medical Officer of Bangalore and other places, he has had ample opportunities to conduct similar operations times without number. Even now in the Districts and Taluks, epidemics of plague and other infectious diseases are controlled by officers with far inferior qualifications, to Mr. Puttanna's. I annex herewith a copy of his report to me dated 5.2.1920, for the information of the Government. If Mr. Puttanna had not done all what he had done on his own initiative at an emergency like this, he would have laid himself open to severe criticism from all sides, and he would have proved himself quite incompetent to be the Resident Medical Officer of the Victoria Hospital. What he had done on this occasion had my fullest approval and I am sure no one else coul'd have added one iota to the precautionary measures adopted by

by him. The Resident Medical Officer represents me in my absence and whatever he does with my approval amounts to my having done it.

When I was informed of the occurrence of plague on the following day and of all the measures already adopted by the Resident Medical Officer, I had nothing further to suggest, neither did I have any chance to attend personally to the measures adopted by him. All these had been done before I became aware of the incident. Neither the Resident Medical Officer nor I have any chance of knowing what is going on in the private quarters of the staff, unless it is brought to our notice. We cannot enter into the privacy of the Hindu families and disturb their peace at our sweet will and pleasure.

When I wrote in my letter No. 860 dated 9th February 1920 to the Senior Surgeon, that on receipt of the Senior Surgeons letter, the Resident Medical Officer was asked to inoculate all the inmates of the staff quarters and the menials, I had overlooked the report of the Resident Medical Officer dated 5th February 1920, in which he had said that he had already started inoculation. In fact he had inoculated his own household on the 18th January 1920, but as the needle broke he was unable to continue it till the 21st January 1920. There was considerable opposition to inoculation, among the inmates of the staff quarters and among the menials and I had to overcome their opposition partly by coercion and partly by persuasion.

With regard to my omission to inform the Senior Surgeon of the case of plague " without loss of time ", I beg to submit that I was not aware of any standing order to that effect. Had I known it, nothing could have been easier than to send a special orderly post haste to the Senior

Memo.

1. At about 11 A.M. on the 18th January 1920, Mr. Padmanabha Mudr, Sub Assistant Surgeon residing in the staff quartes of the Victoria Hospital, informed me that his wife had fever and enlarged gland in the groin. I immediately proceeded to his quartes and examined the patient. I found her having a temperature of 103 F. with a bubo in the left groin. Her tongue was parched up; she was slow in responding to calls; was unable to speak and appeared very ill. From all the symptoms observed, I at once concluded that the case was undoubtedly one of Bubonic Plague and apprised the Sub Ass Surgeon of my diagnosis. I also issued written instructions to him to remove the patient immediately to the Epidemic Disease Hospital and vacate the quarters. At the same time, I wrote to the Health Officer, Bangalore City, informing him of the occurence of a case of plague in the Hospital compound and requesting him to arrange for the disinfection of the quartes and the surroundings.

2. By the evening of the same day (18th), the patient was removed to the Epidemic Diseases Hospital and the other inmates to the contact camp and there she passed away early next morning. The infected quarters were also disinfected the same day (18th) and it was reported by the disinfection staff that, in the course of disinfection, a dead dried rat was found in one of the baskets in the quarters. The belongings of the Sub Asst Surgeon were removed, the quartes were completely vacated, all the windows were thrown open and the Mangalore tiled roof was opened up in several places to let in plenty of air and sunlight.

3. In addition to the above precautionery measures adopted under my instructions, I began the inoculation campaign the same day (18th) and have so far inoculated 256 out of 273 inmates of all the quarters in the Hospital compound; and the inoculation of the few remaining persons will be attended to within the next few days.

4. As desired by the Medical Officer on the 25th January, I investigated into the probable cause of infection by eliciting all possible information from the Sub Asst Surgeon and I give below the result of my investigation:-

5. The facts elicited from the Sub Asst Surgeon go to show:-

(i) that plague is prevalent in localities between Mandya and Mysore;

(ii) that he had proceeded to Palhally and Seringapatam a couple of days before the infection in his house;

(iii) that he sent a consignment of paddy by rail from Paschimavahini;

(iv) that he brought vegetables from Seringapatam on and

(v) that his wife fell ill the very night on which the consignemnt of paddy was received by rail here.

6. In the absence of any further definite data as to the exact source of infection, the only possible theory appears to be that it might have been due to one or other of the following causes:-

(i) An infected rat might have got into one of the bags of paddy either at Palhally or in the Railway Goods-Shed at Paschimavahini where the paddy was booked or while in the waggon in the course of transmission along with other consignments, or even in the City Goods-Shed, Bangalore and from there transmitted to the Sub Asst Surgeon's quarters;

or (ii) The Sub Asst Surgeon or one of the inmates of his quarters might have gone to, and returned from, some infected locality in Bangalore, without knowing it as such thereby bringing infection with them; or some friend or relative of the family from an infected quarter of the City might, in the course of an innocent visit to them in their quarters have unconsciously introduced infection, without either party suspecting the slightest danger from the visit at the time.

or

or (iii) It might have been due to infected rats from one or other of the many grain stores in the New Tharagapeta located very close to the Hospital Compound having found their way to the quarters of the Sub Asst Surgeon

5-2-1920,
Bangalore.

Sd/- D.S. Puttanna
Resident Medical Officer,
Victoria Hospital.

" C O P Y "

H.B. Mysoreman
Asst. Surgeon in-charge.
Victoria Hospital
Bangalore,

G. R. S. VI—G/32]

SUBJECT.....

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.....

*Diary No. of letter replied to*.....

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT,
( )
*the* 191 .

*Date of issue.* 12/6

*Signed by*.....

**Section** Med
**File No.**
**Serial No.**

No. G 27848 me

To

The Senior Surgeon

Sir

I am directed to return herewith the Inoculation register of the Victoria Hospital forwarded not submitted with your letter no C 1726-6 dt the may 20.

I have etc

9/6/20
for Chief Secy

*over.*

9/6/20.